Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 00768 020401Z

17
ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-07

SAJ-01 /113 W
---------- 082354
R 011150Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4335
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DARES SALAAM
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY GEORGETWON
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N TI A L COLOMBO 768

E.O. 11652:NGDS
TAGS: PORG, PFOR, CE
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS.
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PAGE 02 COLOMB 00768 020401Z

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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REF: COLOMBO 617 (NOTAL)

1. TWO RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA (GSL) OFFICIALS SHED ADDITIONAL LIGHT ON CURRENT STATE OF NON-ALIGNED PREPARATIONS.

2. LEELANDA DE SILVA, ADDITIONAL SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, WHO HAS HAD PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR DRAFT OF ECONOMIC PORTION OF DECLARATION FOR COLOMBO SUMMIT MEETING, TOLD EMBASSY FEB. 28 THAT FIRST DRAFT OF THIS SECTION HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND WOULD BE FORWARDED SOON TO NEW YORK. HE BELIEVED BOTH POLLTICAL AND ECONOMIC SECTIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERED BY 17-MEMBER NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NACC) DURING LAST WEEK OF MARCH OR EARLY APRIL. HE SAID THAT DRAFT DECLARATION WILL ENDORSE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (NIEO), BUT SHOULD NOT CAUSE MAJOR PROBLEMS FOR USG. IT DID NOT CONTAIN STRIDENT REFERENCE TO "COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM," WAS MODERATE IN TONE, AND ENDORSED IMPORTANCE OF DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT DRAFT COULD BE SEVERLY AMENDED BY NACC GROUP AND BY LATER MEETINGS LEADING UP AND INCLUDING SUMMIT.

3.DE SILVA ALSO REVEALED THAT SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER FIRYUBIN, WHO VISITED COLOMBO LAST WEEK, HAD EXPRESSED HIS DISPLEASURE AT GSL'S EFFORTS TO EMPHASIZE ECONOMIC ISSUES AT COLOMBO MEETING, POINTING OUT THAT ECONOMIC MATTERS WERE ALREADY DISCUSSED IN A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL FORUMS, SUCH AS GROUP OF 77. FIRYUBIN SAID NAC SHOULD BE PRIMARILY FORM FOR POLITICAL ISSUES. AFTER DISCUSSING RECENT EVENTS IN ANGOLA, HE CHIDED GSL ON LATE RECOGNITION OF MPLA AND WENT ON TO EXPRESS STRONG HOPE SUMMIT WOULD DEVOTE PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. HE ALSO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF DEVOTING CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO MIDDLE EAST.

4. EMBASSY DISCUSSED POLITIACAL SIDE WITH N.M. M. I HUSSAIN, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS' NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE DIVISION CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 COLOMB 00768 020401Z

ON MARCH 1. HUSSAIN'S OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DRAFTING POLITICAL DECLARATION FOR COLOMBO. DRAFT, NEARLY FINISHED, WILL BE REVEEWED WITHIN GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA (GSL) UP TO AND INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER AND WILL BE PRESENTED TO 17-NATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK PROBABLY NOT BEFORE APRIL. EFFORT HAS BEEN TO KEEP THE DRAFT SHORT, MORE SIMPLE AND GENERALIZED THAN POLITICAL DECLARATION AT ALGIERS CONFERENCE,

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

WHICH RAN 22 PAGES AND 101 NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS.
UNDOUBTEDLY ORIGINAL GSL DRAFT WILL BE EXPANDED AND
EMBELLISHED AS MEMBER COUNTRIES GO TO WORK TO INCORPORATE
SPECIAL INTEREST ISSUES,ACCORDING TO HUSSAIN.

5. ISSUE OF PERMANENT SECRETARIAT.THIS ISSUE IS
BEING PUSHED VERY HARD (COLOMBO 650) BY ALBIERIA AND IRAQ, WHOLSE
FOREIGN MINISTER VISITED COLOMBO LAST WEEK. MANY
COUNTRIES OPPOSE. HUSSAIN MADE POINT THAT ALGERS
RESOLUTION CREATING "BUREAU" OF THE 17 NACC COUNTRIES
CALLED ON THAT GROUP TOSTUDY QUESTION OF
ESTABLISHING PERMANENT SECRETARIAT.SUCH A STUDY HAS
NEVER BEEN MADE, AND THIS MAY OFFER EXCUSE TO
COUNTRIES OPPOSING CONCEPT TO TRY TO SHELVE ISSUES IN
COLOMBO UNTIL SUCH STUDY IS EVENTUALLY MADE, PRESUMABLY
IN INDETERMINATE FUTURE.

6.INFORMATION. LME CONFERENCE RESULUTION IV
CALLED FOR MEETING IN NEW DELHI IN 1976 TO DRAW UP
DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR NON-ALIGNED PRESS AGENCY POOL
FOR CONSIDERATION BY COLOMBO SUMMIT. APPARENTLY THIS
MEETING HAS NOT BEEN HELD. TUNISIA WAS TO SERVE AS
COORDINATING COUNTRY ON INFORMATIONAND MASS
COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA AND TOHOLD A SMPOSIUM IN 1976
WHICH, HUSSAIN SAID, IS SCHEDULED FOR LATER IN YEAR.
LOCAL PRESS REPORTS UYGOSLAV MINISTER OF INFORMATION
WILL ARRIVE COLOMBO MARCH 3 TO DISCUSS SETTING UP A
NON-ALIGNED NEW AGENCY, FOLLOWING HIS CURRENT DISCUSSIONS
IN NEW DELHI ON SUBMECT. SAME PRESS STORY
RELATES THIS TO LOCAL PROPOSALS THAT SRI LANKA SET
UP A NATIONAL NEW AGENCY, POSSIBLY BRINGING IN
COMPETENT FOREIGN EXPERT FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY.

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7.MEMBERSHIP OF NACC. HISSAIN CONCEDED THAT
SAME 17 COUNTRIES HAVE SERVED ON NACC SINE BEFORE
1973ALGIERS CONFERENCE, AT WHICH THEY SERVED AS
CONFERENCE BUREAU, HOLDING CONFERENCE VICE CHAIRMAN-
SHIPS AND OTHER KEY POSTS. EMBOFF ASKED IF SOME
PROCEDURE WERE ENVISAGED FOR ROTATION ON THIS GROUP
TO GIVE OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES A CHANCE. HUSSAIN
SAID SPECIAL PROVISION WAS BEING MADE IN DRAFT
AGENDA FOR SEPARATE ITEM ON NACC MEMBERSHIP QUESTION
FOR THIS PURPOSE. HE BELIEVED CONFERENCE WOULD
ELECT NEW SLATE OF NACC COUNTRIES.

8. HUSSAIN WAS INTERESTED IN REPORTED MENTION AT
RECENT ASEAN SUMMIT MEETING IN BALI OF IDEA OF
SOUTHEAST ASIAN ZONE OF PEACE, INDICATING HIS BELIEF

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THAT HIS MIGHT BE REVIVAL OF EARLIER MALAYSIAN PROPOSAWIFOR NEUTRALIZED ZONE FOR AREA. HE WOULD ASK CLARIFICATION FROM GSL EMBASSIES, AS THIS MIGHT BE SOMETHING WHICH HE SHOULD INCLUDE IN DRAFT POLITICAL DECLARATION FOR NAC. EMBOFF EXPRESSED OPINION THAT THIS PHRASE MAY HAVE BEEN USED MORE IN CONTEXT OF EXTENDING OLIVE BRANCH TO SEA COMMUNIST CONTRIES, IN EVENT THEY WERE TO SHOW ANY INTEREST IN SUCH A PROPOSAL. COMMENT: AS AUTHOR OF INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE PROPOSAL, SRI LANKA IS ALL FOR GIVING THE ZONE CONCEPT CURRENCY.
VAN HOLLEN

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